Fairs—1923. South Carolina.

NEGRO STATE FAIR TO GET UNDER WAY

Good Program Arranged for the Week.

TO STAGE PARADE

The State

Number Already Here and Large Crowds Are Expected by Officers.

10-31-23

Phil D. Brown of the department of labor, Washington, is on the program to speak at the negro state fair at 12:30 today. The meeting is to be presided over by Julius A. Brown of Charleston, grand chancellor of the negro Knights of Pythias in South Carolina. A street parade with two bands of music will be made up in honor of the speaker—the procession to be through Main street to the fair ground.

Today is farmers' day at the negro fair and quite a crowd is expected. A number of visitors are in the city already; more than has been seen at the negro fair on the opening day in a long time. The leaders of the association say that they will have a record breaking attendance tomorrow and Friday. The negro schools of Columbia will have holiday Thursday and Friday, as will the negro schools of the county. The teachers and pupils will spend two days at the fair.

Local Schools.

Ranking next to the display by the state agricultural and mechanical college of Orangeburg is the display of the Booker Washington high school of Columbia. This is the only negro high school with exhibits at the fair and what it has on exhibition is a credit to the institution. The work in sewing, cooking, and manual arts shows many useful articles made for the home and the hand work seems to be exceptional. There are more than 300 different articles.

Visitors to the negro fair will admire the showing being made by Benedict college and Allen university. The needlework, plain, sewing and fancy quilting are attracting attention. In the dress making department of Benedict college are seen many hats made by the students. In the same booth is a very pretty woman's overcoat, a one piece dress and a hat which was made by Mable Anderson of Aiken; also are a hat and four men's ready to wear shirts made by Genevieve Kyer of Columbia. The house dresses and other useful articles attract attention.

County Exhibits.

Richland and McCormick counties come in for a full share of praise for what is being shown at the fair. J. E. Dixon, the farm demonstrator, and A. M. Garrett, the supervisor of the negro rural schools, have creditable booths. To emphasize molasses cane as a good product for Richland farmers, Dixon has written the name of the county in the background of his booth forming the letters out of millet seed. In the supervisors' booth are mats for table and door made of rags, cord and shucks. The McCormick county booth has some home made articles that are creditable. This county work is under the direction of J. R. Galloway.

The woman's clubs of Bethel A. M. E. church, and the Sidney Park C. M. E. church have creditable exhibits.

Among the things that attract attention is an ambulance made by Robert Simon, a wheelwright on the 1300 block of Assembly street. This automobile truck was put up in his shop and the body built outright by Simons.

At 2 o'clock today a big feature at the negro fair will be the horse races. There are 20 horses here for the races—15 pacers and five trotters. In the races today will be the 2:30 trot, 2:30 pace, and 2:20 pace. Joel Jackson of Columbia and C. M. Cromartie of New Brookland have the management of races in charge.

RICHLAND LEADS AT NEGRO FAIR

In Agriculture and Home Demonstration.

WILL CLOSE TODAY

The State

Two Football Games Seen Yesterday, Florence and Benedict Winning.

Columbia S.C.

Richland county led in agricultural products and home demonstration work this week at the negro fair, according to a statement from J. E. Dixon, who is working on the premium list given him last night by the committee of judges. Dixon had made up only a partial list of the hundreds of premiums to be awarded but had enough data worked out to show what counties were given premium tags in this particular work.

11-3-23

The fair is giving away $3,000 in premiums this year and these awards are not mere promises, Dixon said. The legislature appropriated $1,500 to encourage the negroes in this feature of their fair and the officials of the fair have added a like amount. Possibly 800 premiums will be paid. A full list will be ready today showing how these premiums have been distributed.

In the agricultural demonstration work, which is a part of the extension work of the State A. and M. college, premiums awarded were as follows: Richland first, Beaufort second, Orangeburg third, Darlington fourth, Greenwood fifth, Anderson sixth, Sumter seventh, Bamberg eighth, Spartanburg ninth. In the home demonstration work Richland stood first and Charleston second. Among the negro hospitals the hospital at Benedict college stood first and the Good Samaritain second. Among the churches Zion Baptist was given first prize, Union Baptist church second, Sydney Park C. M. E. church third, and Bethel A. M. E. church fourth.

The judges gave a premium to Abbeville county exhibit, brought in by the Rev. J. B. Smith and placed on exhibition in the Richland county display. The articles were several knitted sweaters made by Marjorie Ellison of Calhoun Falls.

Sumter County.

M. A. Maloney, farm demonstrator among the negro planters of Sumter county, had an outline of his activities in that county. In 30 demonstrations with 30 farmers 132 acres were planted, from which 126 bales were gathered, averaging in weight 550 pounds. In his tomato demonstration they planted 15 acres and sold 51 tons at the canning factory in Sumter at $20 per ton. Maloney has three boys' corn clubs in his county. From these clubs he reports the highest production per acre 110 bushels. He has a poultry club of 22 girls who sold $200 worth of chickens.

Twenty other extension workers had demonstrations at the fair and are doing similar work among the negro farmers of the state as a part of extension work of the State college. The negro farm demonstrator of Sumter showed in his outlines that he also had an adult corn club with a yield of 112 bushels per acre, and a tobacco club from which they sold $3,500 worth of tobacco from 15 acres planted.

Football Games.

The noon day feature of the negro fair yesterday was the game of football between the Wilson high school of Florence and the Booker Washington high school of Columbia, which was witnessed by a large number of fans and was very good. The Florence school defeated the Columbia team, 20 to 6. Both schools have good teams and they made a fine impression in their first try out in negro state fair athletics. It was an exciting contest.

Benedict college of Columbia played Paine college of Augusta at 2:30 in the afternoon, winning the game with a score of 26 to 6. The Georgia college had a good team but it was not equal to the Benedict college eleven. Benedict took the game in the first half, scoring 20 points.

The negro fair closes today. The general sentiment is that it has been a fair to encourage greater efforts for next year. Many leading white people have praised the efforts of the negroes this year.

ANDERSON NEGRO FAIR HAS SPLENDID DISPLAY

Is Termed Great Credit to Negro Residents of County First Fair of Its Kind.

ANDERSON, Nov. 16.—The colored agricultural fair opened here Tuesday. They have a most creditable display of overything raised on farms, and show what the small farmer can do. This is the first colored fair ever held here under the management of the county agent, H. T. Harrison, and it is a credit to any county.

The colored people are financing the fair themselves by taking shares of stock at $5 a share. They are renting the grounds and the tents used here by the Anderson agricultural fair and with the premiums given the expences will be more than $600.

There was one farmer, A. Milliner, from Pendleton, who cultivates 41½ acres, and he had on exhibition everything that could be raised on a farm of many hundreds of acres. When asked about his crop, he said, that he didn't plant much cotton for fear of the boll weevil, he would have three bales of cotton, 300 bushels of corn, enough hay to do him, and some to sell, and plenty of produce to do his family the entire year, with a hundred head of chicken on the side. All that he would have to buy would be sugar and coffee, and a few clothes.

The hog show demonstrates that white farmers are not the only ones who are raising high bred hogs. Every hog shown, and there are many of them, are of Duroc Jersey or Poland-China. The boys pig clubs also have some fine hogs of Duroc Jersey.

There is the most remarkable quilt in the needlework exhibit that has ever been see nhere. I am made by a colored woman, Mary Jane Johnson, who lives some miles south of the city, and she has made a miniature flag of every country under the sun. All of these flags are accurately made, many of them having the embles embroidered, and 62 foreign flags are represented, with "Old Glory" in the center. These flags are made of cotton cloth, but all have the colors of the flags and are exact duplicates of the large flags.

The schools also show up exceedingly well, and may have booths filled with writing, arithmetic work, posters, drawings, and many articles from the industrial departments.

That the colored people are also practicing thrift is shown by the many artivles in this department, and that they are also paying attention to health is shown by the health charts exhibited.

NEGRO STATE FAIR OPENS TOMORROW

Officials Look For Most Successful Affair.

The State

ENCOURAGED BY HELP

State College to Send Carload of Exhibits—Some Displays Remain From Last Week.

10-29-23

There is every reason to believe that the state fair for negroes, which opens in Columbia tomorrow, will be a success and will be better than any had within the past five or six years, according to a statement given out yesterday by John H. Goodwin, the president, and Green Jackson, secretary, of the association. Both Jackson and Goodwin spent a busy day Saturday making necessary arrangements and conferring with the officials of the white fair association. Arrangements for full use of the grounds and buildings were perfected and several community exhibits seen at the fair last week will be left intact for the negro fair. The exhibits of the boys' reformatory at the fair last week will be left with a manager in charge, also exhibits of the International Harvester people, Gibbes Machinery company and some community exhibits. It is also stated that some of the poultry and live stock seen at the fair last week will be shown again at the negro fair this week.

Columbia S.C.

Much Encouraged.

Jackson said that the committee of the negro fair has never been encouraged in their efforts before as they are now. That many white people of business affairs in Columbia have given them substantial assistance and granted favors in every way possible for the making of a great event, and with all matters well in hand he and Goodwin feel certain that all outstanding accounts against the association will be settled by the week-end and they will be in a position to reorganize the association on most businesslike basis. One of the encouraging letters sent to Jackson was from the superintendent of South Carolina State hospital, in which the superintendent said: "Your letter of October 3 asking if we would let our herd of cattle remain on exhibition at the negro fair was duly received.

"We have decided to leave our herd there for the benefit of your fair and I sincerely trust the negro people of the state will derive much value from the exhibit.

"Your association has always been very kind in extending all the courtesies of the fair to the negro patients of this institution and I want to assure you and your association that it is our desire to cooperate in any way we can to better conditions of your race."

State College Assists.

The State A. and M. college at Orangeburg is doing much to make the negro fair bigger and better, Dr. Goodwin said. It is bringing up a solid car of exhibits from the departments in the trade school. Through the group of extension workers exhibits will come from several counties besides the fine showing the college expects to make. President Wilkinson is advisory director of the negro fair and is assisting the officers in every way. Through his office the legislature, at its last session, appropriated $1,500 to be given away in premiums and a like amount will be added by the officials of the fair.

Speaking of the accommodations for the thousands of negroes coming to Columbia this week, Green Jackson said that no one will suffer as it is

understood that the negroes of Columbia will make room and accommodate the crowds. Special accommodations were arranged Saturday for the teachers and students coming from the state college.

Among other negro colleges with varied exhibits from their departments will be Benedict college and Allen university, two large negro schools of the city.

NOV 12 1923

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE COLORED FAIR

A TRIBUNE representative visited the Anderson Colored Agricultural Fair, which opened yesterday, and gives to readers of this morning's paper an idea of the creditable showing that is made there, advising white people who desire to know what really remarkable progress the black race is making, to visit this interesting exposition, either today or tomorrow.

It seems to The Tribune that, when these people who unquestionably form the agricultural backbone of the South, evidence the enterprise and pride which are back of a showing of this character, they ought at least to be encouraged by the attendance of their white friends—to say nothing of the fact that a visit to this fair is really worthwhile.

Provision has been made for the attendance of white people by reserving space for them in the grandstand. Today is School day at this fair, and County Representative L. M. Mahaffey, with a proper appreciation of the broad functions of his office, has consented to direct the program.

Perhaps the most creditable thing about this project is that the colored people went right ahead and formed their own fair association, being just one jump ahead of the white folks in that regard, for the Anderson Fair itself has no definite association as yet back of it. No financial assistance was asked by W. B. Harrison, county colored demonstration agent, who is largely responsible for this progressive move on the part of his people, and his associates. Instead of asking some of the business men to "dig up" to help them, they formed a stock company and issued shares in the amount of $5.00 each, and we understand that these were quickly subscribed to the extent of $600.

The officers of the Anderson County Colored Fair association are: A. A. Thompson, president; Warren Thompson, vice president; S. C. Perry, secretary; H. R. Asbury, assistant secretary; A. H. Harmon, treasurer; W. B. Harrison, general manager, and E. D. Mitchell, assistant general manager.

Take a ride out to Cater Park today, see these very creditable exhibits, and show the colored folks that their progressive efforts are appreciated in this community.

VERSATILE EXHIBIT BY YOUNG NEGROES

Members of State Reformatory School Show Samples of Vegetables, Canned Goods, Etc.

The state reformatory for negro boys has an excellent and versatile exhibit at the state fair. The school is located on the Broad river road, about six miles from Columbia. There are 188 boys in the school. S. A. Lindsay is superintendent.

The display is under the directorship of F. W. Groome, county agent, for the state board of public welfare association. According to Mr. Groome the boys made a bale of cotton to the acre on portions of the institution's land.

The display consists of samples of peanuts, butter beans, wheat, oats, home made flour, corn, canned fruits, pickles made by the boys in the kitchen, corn on the cob, sweet potatoes, fodder, pea vine hay, and samples of shoes which were half soled by the boys of the institution.

Fairs — 1923.

Arkansas.

NEGRO DISPLAY AT LEE COUNTY FAIR UNUSUAL

Commercial Appeal

Entire Building Given Over to Splendid Exhibits.

HAVE 2 COUNTY AGENTS

Memphis

Colored Population, Totaling 67 Per Cent of Whole County, Are Deeply Interested in Work and Individual Entries Excel Whites.

Tenn.

BY G. P. NEWBERN.
(Staff Correspondent).

MARIANNA, Ark., Oct. 13.—The negroes of Lee County, Arkansas—totaling 65 per cent of the county's population—shared honors with the white farmers, the girls' canning clubs, the adults' canning clubs and in various other departments at the third annual Lee County harvest festival and fair which closed here today.

Lee County boasts two county agricultural agents and two home demonstration agents—two white and two negro. The negro farmers of this county are deeply interested in the work and that success has met the efforts of not only the county agents but the individual negroes throughout the county is clearly demonstrated in the displays entered in the fair just closed.

10-14-23

An entire building on Main Street was turned over to the negroes by those in charge of the festival and fair and they were left to their own devices in arrangement of the displays and the character of the articles to be exhibited. Not until the building was thrown open to the public last Thursday did Lee Countians know what the negroes were doing along agricultural and home economic lines nor did they realize the rapidity with which the negroes have adapted themselves to the advanced methods as taught by the two agents.

Many counties in Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee are complaining of labor shortage by reason of the more or less general exodus of negroes to the north. This is not one of Lee County's worries. But few negroes have left this section and there is no indication that they will.

They are hard workers and more than anything else are satisfied. The business men of Marianna and of the entire county encourage them to put forth their best efforts and every opportunity is given them to improve their condition.

Several of the exhibits in the negro building at the fair were entered by individuals and practically every one of these individual exhibits contained between 50 and 100 varieties of canned products, in addition to quilting and plain and fancy sewing.

The largest individual exhibit in the building contained samples of canned and preserved fruits and berries, canned meats, including beef and chicken, a score of vegetables, cured meats, soap, tallow, beeswax and numerous articles of fancy needlework.

The school exhibits in the negro building offered an accurate gauge of the work that is being done in the negro schools throughout the county. There were various exhibits of cabinet making made by negro boys, basket weaving displays and needlework by the negro girls, map drawing and composition by both.

Contests similar to those conducted for the white people of the county were staged among the negroes and the rivalry was keen. The awards, however, will not be made public until next week.

The teachers in the various negro schools are taking a lively interest in their work and are exerting their utmost efforts to bring the schools up to the highest standard possible. The exhibits reflect much credit upon their efforts.

As an illustration of the harmony that exists between the whites and blacks in Lee County, it may be said in passing that the building used by the negroes during the fair was located on Main Street. It joined on the west the building used for the white school exhibit and was directly across the street from the building used by the whites for the various community exhibits.

The parade staged yesterday by the white people of the county was followed immediately by another parade of the negroes. The same route was followed by both and the negro parade included representatives from every section of the county, with several score of negro school children in the line of march.

Reference to the negro parade would be incomplete without mention of the Paradise Choir. This choir of mixed voices sang religious songs throughout the parade and last night staged an impromptu sacred concert in front of the negro exhibit building.

CRITTENDEN PRIZES.

Commercial Appeal

Memphis

Awarded At First Negro Fair to Be Held in the County.

10-14-23

MARION, Ark., Oct. 8.—Crittenden County's agricultural products will be shown for the second time in Memphis when an exhibit will be put on display at the negro Tri-State Fair by the county's colored fair association.

The first negro fair to be staged in the county came to a successful close Saturday. There were a large number of agricultural, live stock and poultry exhibits and many prizes were awarded. The association is composed of a number of leading negro citizens of the county and is headed by John Gammon, chairman and Jim Phelix, secretary-treasurer.

The fair was given support by the white citizens of the county and many of them expressed admiration over the class and quality of the exhibits.

The judges at the fair were E. S. Barrentine, county agricultural agent, and Miss Flora Ferrill, home demonstration. Prize winners as announced follows:

10-9-23

Best display in vegetables, Ed Kennedy, first; George Walker, second; best pumpkin, John Gammon, first; Amos Woods, second; cushaw, R. D. Danzy, first; onions, A. J. Sullivan, first; Pearl Rusall, second; turnips, Ed Kennedy; sweet potatoes, Nancy Hall, E. J. Kenndy, first; P. J. Rogers, second; Portorican, Ed Kennedy, first; Edward Lewis, second; beans, Ed Kennedy, first; beets, Ed Kennedy, first; Walter Bankhead, second; tomatoes, Ed Kennedy, first; Amos Woods, second; okra, Amos Woods, first; Pearl Rusall, second; collards, Pearl Rusall, first; soy beans, Ben Hayes, first; sorghum, Frank Purdy; R. D. Danzy, second; sorghum syrup, E. Jetton, first; honey, S. G. Ivey, first; R. D. Danzy, second; sorghum syrup, E. Jetton, first; honey, S. G. Ivy, first.

Cotton, long staple, Ed Kennedy, first; John Gammon, second; short staple, Ed Kennedy, first; Walter Bankhead, second.

Corn, prolific, A. J. Sullivan; single ear, S. H. Holmes, first; Ed Kennedy, second; pop corn, Amos Woods, first; W. H. Davis, second; best stalk of corn, John Gammon, first; A. S. Fuller, second.

Pepper, bunch, Ruth Roberson; stalk, Annie B. Yarnes; peanuts, bunch, Amos Woods, first; peck, Tennessee Anderson, first; velvet beans, Minnie Cameron.

Canned corn, Pearl Rusall, first; Mary Rogers, second; peaches, Virginia Walace, first.

Best display of roses, Pearl Rusall, first; Nellie Carter, second; map drawing, James Enoch, first; Emma Gray, second; dressmaking, house dress, Ida Vaughan, first; street dress, Eva Lyons, first; Annie Phelix, second; embroidery, Lillian Bird, first; drawing in school work, Robert Gordon, first; crochet, Helen Jones, first; cup and towel set, Lillian Berry; laundry bag, Melvina Williams, first; manual training display, best house, Lewis Turner, first.

Live stock, cow, Fred Wallace, first; Beatrice McWinters, second; bull, B. F. Hayes, first; P. J. Rogers, second; gilt, Rev. Hood, first; sow, J. D. Duffin; boar, E. H. Hood; gilt under one year, Ben Hayes, first; J. D. Duffin, second.

Poultry, cockerel, W. H. Gray, first; Mary L. Rogers, second; best pen, Jessie Knoles.

NEGRO FAIR EXTENDED.

Commercial Appeal

Fine Exhibits at Helena Held Over Until Saturday.

Memphis, Tenn.

HELENA, Ark., Oct. 18.—Sam Harris, negro demonstration agent, has been making an effort to keep the farm exhibits here several days at the negro fair. Bad weather made some of the entries late and kept away from Helena many who had planned coming for the exhibition. The exhibition was held on a scaffold stand, erected in the building.

The first to be placed on the stands were some products that won prizes at the state fair in Little Rock, being the product of several communities throughout the district. According to the demonstration agent, over 400 boys and about 300 girls were interested in the fair, in addition to a number of aduits.

10-19-23

On account of the rain those who were late in coming in were requested to leave their products and exhibits for several days. The original plan was to have a fair that lasted only one day, but on account of the rain it will be held over until Saturday, allowing two days for visitors to view the exhibits of the negro boys and girls.

A prize list was prepared by the Retail Merchants' Association and provided several awards for the different classes of exhibits. The boys exhibits were chiefly their corn, potato, cotton and peanut raising clubs, while the girls showed exhibits of cooking, sewing and domestic science. Both were awarded prizes of merchandise. A cash prize will be given to the club having the best gross results on their exhibits at the close of the fair.

The agent issued an invitation to all visitors to inspect the products. The fair opened about 8 a. m. and closed about 10 p. m., with as many exhibits as possible held over until Saturday.

NEGROES TO HAVE FAIR.

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tenn.

10-9-23

WILSON, Ark., Sept. 18.—The negroes of Mississippi county are taking increased interest in the educational and moral development of their people. To encourage them in their efforts the county court this year is maintaining for them a colored county agent and a home demonstrator. Under the direction of these agents, Mary J. McCain and C. C. Haraway, the negroes are making extensive preparations for a district fair to be given at Wilson Sept. 20, 21 and 22. It will be a general rally for their educational and agricultural interests. Lee Wilson & Co. are giving them the use of the big $15,000 seed house recently completed, for the display of their many varieties of exhibits. Rev. J. M. Williams of Shelby, Miss., is one of the visiting speakers to address those present Friday on "Rural Conditions."

NEGROES HAVE BIG FAIR.

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tenn.

9-23-23

Three-Day Exhibit at Wilson Shows Many Products.

WILSON, Ark., Sept. 22.—The negroes' big district fair held in Wilson the 20, 21 and 22 was a great success. Lee Wilson d Co.'s big new seed house, 50x100 feet, was crowded morning and afternoon the past three days. A record crowd was present last night to hear the addresses and see the educational films exhibited by the colored county demonstrator, Prof. Haraway.

A large variety of exhibits of beautiful needle work, attractive canned fruits, vegetables, meats, and displays of all kinds of farm and garden products, were to be seen in the booths of the several communities represented. An interesting demonstration in broom making was givenb y the boys of the vocational department of the Carson Lake School. The exhibit of the boys and girls' clubs was quite creditable. A child's dress made of flour sacks and an adult's dress made of crocus sacks attracted much attention.

There are many evidences that the teachers and county agents have been doing real helpful and uplifting work among their people.

NEGROES HONOR LEADER.

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tenn.

MARION, Ark., Aug. 21.—J. S. Phelix, who for several years has been recognized as a leader of his race and a negro who has worked untiringly with the white citizens of this section for the betterment of the negroes in Crittenden County, has been honored by the negroes of the state in being elected grand master of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, F. & A. M. of the Arkansas jursidiction. Phelix was formerly grand secretary. He recently attended the grand lodge meeting at Pine Bluff, where he was made grand master. Phelix has played a leading part this year in working with his people and it is probably to his credit that many negroes of this county have stayed at home instead of going north. He is secretary of the negro county fair, which is going to be staged at Marion this year on Sept. 20-21. This will be the first negro fair to be staged in the county.

BLYTHEVILLE NEGRO FAIR.

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tenn.

9-28-23

BLYTHEVILLE, Ark., Sept. 8.—The colored citizens of this community and Mississippi county and community fair at the court house here Thursday, Sept. 28 and 29. A fine exhibit of agricultural and industrial displays is promised. Every effort will be made to encourage the colored people of Mississippi County to do more constructive work for the upbuilding and betterment of the community and country. No admission will be charged. Prizes will be awarded. The fair will be in charge of county agents Mary J. McCain and C. C. Harraway.

NEGROES HAVE FINE FAIR.

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tenn.

10-19-23

St. Francis County's Seventh Annual Event Shows Improved Products.

FORREST CITY, Ark., Sept. 28.—The seventh annual fair put on by the negroes of St. Francis County is being held in Forrest City this week at Guytons Park. The exhibits are excellent, and in many instances excel those of last year. The quality, in the opinion of H. B. Mitchell, colored farm agent, averages better than last year.

The number of booths increased one over last year, and exhibits are made from the following communities: Telco, Spy Buck, Beck's, Pine Tree, Stump City, Heth, Colt, Shady Grove, Peter's Rock, DeRossitt, Palestine, Black Fish, Weaver, Rawlinson, Forrest City, Madison, Hughes, Caldwell, New Hebron, Shiloh nad a special booth for exhibits of the negro girls' clubs from all parts of the county. The exhibits include everything grown on the farm and orchards of St. Francis County, as well as needle work, school work, baking, etc.

The fair opened Wednesday and will close Friday. Quite a large number have attended. Those connected with the present fair, including County Agent A. B. Mitchell and Home Demonstrator Lugenia Bell, are to be commended.

Fairs—1923. General

FAIR MEN MAKE ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted To Secretary of National Negro Business League With Which It Is Affiliated

GREAT PROGRESS SHOWN

Fifty-One of Sixty Colored Fairs in Fair Association; Thirty-five in N. N. B. L.

By J. A. JACKSON

The following report of the first year's activities of the National Association of Colored Fair Officials was submitted to the National Negro Business League, the sponsor of the new organization.

The National Business League, the pioneer business organization of the race in America, has been responsible for the organizing of a number of business and professional interests of the race. Each body, as it matured being permitted to go for itself in its particular field.

Last year, the session in Norfolk sent the Fair people off with a flying start, and the report given below shows that the officials of the Negro Fairs have improved their opportunity in a most acceptable manner.

The report to Secretary Albion Holsey of the league states that fair officials will be unable to attend the League meetings this year on account of business.

Of the sixty different Fairs owned and controlled by our people, fifty-one have given every indication of interest in the National Association of Colored Fairs.

Thirty-five have had representation at either the preliminary meeting of the National Negro Business League or at the first annual meeting of the National Association held at Norfolk, Va., February 22, 1923.

Twelve have actually complied with the requirements of membership and paid for same. Others are waiting until their annual meetings following the Fair season of 1923.

Eight amusement parks, piers, and beaches were represented at the first annual meeting.

These fairs, horse shows, parks, piers, and beaches are distributed thru eleven (11) states and the District of Columbia.

Practical achievements thus far have been as follows:

The opening of an executive office at Norfolk, Va.

The assurance of several lithograph companies of their interest and co-operation in the matter of printing advertising lithographs containing Negro faces of creditable race characterization; also the actual production of slides by one manufacturer with true Negro characters for advertising purposes in the various motion picture houses.

The widening of the field of opportunity for Negro performers and concessionaires, providing well-paid employment for more than fifty acts and business opportunity of a hundred more business men of the race.

The officials have obtained the assurance of Government exhibits, whenever practicable, for all fairs applying for same.

A membership card and certificate has been issued that will enable the officials of any fair to protect ALL against unfavorable showmen of either race.

There are now two carnival companies owned and controlled by members of the race that will play Negro fairs exclusively, which will keep about six thousand dollars per week within the race that has heretofore gone to others. The successful operation of these carnivals has been brought about thru the organization of fair circuits by the National Association, which will keep them at work consecutively thruout the fair season.

Fairs—1923.

Georgia

ROME GA Tribune
JUL 20 1923

Negro Department of Fair This Year to Be Revelation

Public spirited negroes of Rome are intent on putting on one of the best shows at the 1923 Floyd County Fair ever displayed at a Rome fair. The negro department has been strengthened by an additional appropriation of $150 for cash premiums and an excellent personnel has been put in charge to run the department, according to W. E. Bowers, secretary.

M. D. Whatley will have charge of the negro department, assisted by Dr. R. H. Brooks, Rev. J. H. Gadson, Paul Ware, Frank Hightower and Prof. R. D. Kelsey.

Mrs. L. B. Fortune will have charge, as in former years, of women's work of the negro department, while she will be assisted by Mrs. E. D. Curtis, Mrs. E. R. Dozier, Miss Anna Ware, Mrs. Wm. Henry and Mrs. R. H. Brooks. Miss Jessie Davie will direct the millinery and art division of the department. Dr. R. H. Brooks will have charge of the health division and Rev. J. H. Gadson the educational phase.

Friday of fair will be observed as "Negro Day" and plans are on foot to carry out a regular negro program of athletic events, and other forms of amusement and rivalry. The colored school children of the county will be admitted free to the fair grounds on that day.

Fairs—1923.

Louisiana.

NEGROES' EXHIBITS AT LOUISIANA FAIR WIN APPROVAL

Times Picayune
10-21-23

Displays Are Taken as Proof of What Can Be Accomplished.

New Orleans Louisiana

Shreveport, La., Oct. 20.—The advance of scientific agriculture, hand crafts and domestic work among the negroes of the state, under the direction of the state extension department, Southern university, the parish agents, and the representatives of the Jeanes funs is strikingly demonstrated by the forty exhibits in the negro building at the State Fair.

Harry D. Wilson, commissioner of agriculture, and Senator Ransdell have characterized the exhibits as a demonstration of what the negro can accomplish under competent direction.

One of the best exhibits in the negro building is that of a fifteen-piece mahogany furniture set made by the carpentry department of Southern university and A. and M. college at Scotlandsville. The material was imported through New Orleans, and all the work was done by students at the university.

This is only one of the numerous university exhibits. They include agricultural products grown on the school farm, shoes, brooms, mattresses and suits of clothes, cooking and needlework. Dr. J. S. Clark, president of the university, was here for the opening.

A fine showing is made by the parishes, the clubs operating under the Jeanes fund, and the parish training schools. A. C. Lewis is state agent for the negro rural schools. The activities under him are directed by negroes, many of them graduates of Southern university.

Professor J. S. Jones is an active assistant in the work, being state building agent for the Rosenwald fund, and state supervisor for the Jeanes fund. The former fund has been used to help in the construction of 187 negro rural schools in Louisiana. The latter fund sends demonstration agents into the schools and homes to teach handicraft. The schools, assisted by the Rosenwald fund, have 481 teacheds and an enrollment of 21,645 children.

T. J. Jordan, district extension agent, and R. P. Player of Caddo parish, are likewise among those responsible for the fine showing at the fair.

Baskets woven from pine straw form a notable feature of the exhibits, and find a ready sale after the close of each fair. Most of the sewing exhibits contain shirts, dresses, bed coverings and similar useful articles. The fancy work is also good.

Eleven parish exhibits represent the work of the Jeanes fund. They are from Beauregard, East Baton Rouge, West Feliciana, East Feliciana, Tangipahoa, Concordia, Sabine, Webster, Caddo, Pointe Coupee and Bossier parishes.

The training schools, which are junior high schools specializing in literary and industrial work, are represented by exhibits from Beauregard, Richland, Webster, Claiborne and Acadia parishes.

M. N. Ringgold is superintendent of the home demonstration agents, who have exhibits from Caddo, East Carroll, La. Salle, Bienville and Richland parishes.

The agricultural clubs, specializing in corn and potatoes, have exhibits from the parishes of West and East Feliciana, St. Landry, East Baton Rouge, Webster, Bienville, Bossier and Caddo.

Among the miscellaneous schools and colleges represented by exhibits are Shreveport High for negroes, Lampton college of Alexandria, Louisiana Collegiate Institute, White Rose Art Club of Shreveport, Peabody school, Mount Zion, Stoner Hill, West End, Butler Hill and Canaan Land schools of Caddo, Merryville of Beauregard, and Alexandria public school.

Fairs—1923.

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Courier Journal
Louisville Ky
10-22-23

VICKSBURG NEGRO FAIR.

VICKSBURG, Miss., Sept. 22.—Officials in charge of the colored fair to be held the week beginning Nov. 1 have given out the premium list. The fair is to last three days and many prizes are offered in all the departments with special prizes for a number of features. A series of races will be staged and a new pavilion is being erected for band concerts. From present indications there will be more exhibits this year than at any previous time.

Fairs—1923

North Carolina.

National Fair Assn. To Meet In Norfolk

Norfolk Journal & Guide 2-3-23

Representative Gathering Of Fair Promoters and Managers To Hold First Meeting Here.

Dr. John H. Love, Raleigh, N. C., president of the National Association of Colored Fairs, has issued a call for the first annual meeting of the Association to be held at Norfolk, Va., February 22nd. The Association was organized last August at Norfolk during the meeting of the National Negro Business League, with the idea of a closer cooperation of the Colored Fair Associations, Horse Show Associations and owners of Amusement Parks and Beaches, which for the present will compose its membership.

Dr. Love states that there is quite a bit of work to be done at the first annual meeting towards completing the policy of the Association, adopting the constitution and by-laws and formulating some plans whereby the fairs can be operated on differnt circuits, having consecutive dates, in order to minimize the cost of operation and at the same time increase the quality of free amusement attractions and induce th national exhibitors of merchandise, farm and agricultural exhibits, to place their wares on exhibition at the colored fairs. This has not been feasible in the past owing to such wide differences in the dates on which the colored fairs have been held and the cost of transportation and lay-offs. Then there is the question of booking the colored free amusement attractions and encouraging the organization of colored carnival companies and concessionaires to operate at the colored fairs and amusement parks. The program will also include addresses by several well informed and experienced men on subjects that pertain to the various departments connected with the operating of fairs.

Fairs

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Citizen

AUG 1 01923

Five Thousand Negroes Expected At Annual District Colored Fair To Be Held Here September 24-29

Plans have been completed for the annual Western North Carolina District Agricultural Fair and Farmers' jubilee which will bring together in Asheville on September 24-29 probably 5,000 colored persons from this section of the state.

From the fair directors in 10 counties comes the report that negroes there are getting ready for the Asheville gathering and will have on display many farm, field and home exhibits of the best each county has to offer. The fair will be held on the new city athletic field.

Coincident with the fair are the annual meetings of the Colored Farmers' federation and the Western North Carolina Fraternal congress.

Prizes have been arranged for farm, field and home exhibits, for winners in numerous athletic contests, for best looking married women, babies, horses, the oldest man and woman, the best church choirs and school exhibits.

Prominent white and colored leaders will be secured to address the daily gatherings on things of current interest to the colored people of western North Carolina.

Directors of the fair for the 10 counties actively participating are: Buncombe county, Richard Mills, W. S. Lee, Maggie Scales, John Whitson, William Pearson and Clifford Pearson; Rutherford county, W. M. Ledbetter, Cal Freeman, Garfield Logan and Howard Dickson; McDowell county, J. M. Lynch, S. R. Greenlee and A. W. Keaton; Burke county, Charles McKesson, G. B. O'Neal, Hannah Little, Wash Avery, Jim McKesson and Harvey Moore; Jackson county, J. A. Fulwood, John Jarvis and M. W. Wells; Haywood county, S. R. Lenoir, H. M. Lowery and William Smathers; Henderson county, Rev. J. W. Beatty, W. M. Robinson and James Pilgram; Transylvania county, Fred Mills, Wade Kemp and the wife of J. H. Johnson; Polk county, wife of C. M. Jackson; Caldwell county, P. K. Anderson and Cordia Anderson.

Two hundred home garden club members will place individual exhibits at the fair, according to E. W. Pearson, of this city, secretary of the fair association.

RALEIGH N. C., Observer

OCT 27 1923

DR. INBORDEN AGAIN HEADS NEGRO FAIR

Annual Exposition Comes To An End After Most Successful Week

Dr. T. S. Inborden, head of the Brick School in Halifax county, was re-elected president of the Negro State Fair Association at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors last night, following the most successful fair in the history of the organization. C. W. Matthews, of Apex was made vice president, Dr. John H. Love, of Raleigh, secretary and C. W. Hoover, of Raleigh treasurer.

All attendance records at the Fair were broken Thursday and Friday, and the handicap of a disastrous opening, due to the cold, rainy weather, was entirely overcome. The Fair was brought officially to a close last night with the Marshalls Ball and fashion show at the City Auditorium. Hundreds of spectators, including many white people, looked on from the galleries.

Fairs — 1923.

Tennessee.

MEMPHIS, TENN. Com'l-Appeal

OCT 7 - 1923

NEGRO FAIR PROMISES TO BE BEST EVER

Exposition Scheduled to Open October 11.

The thirteenth annual exposition of the Colored Tri-State Fair will open Thursday, Oct. 11, and will continue for three days.

Dr. L. G. Patterson, secretary of this fair, states that it will be the biggest and best fair ever given by negroes in the entire south.

Secretary Patterson states that [illegible] begun to come in from different parts of the country, and he is expecting large exhibits from Marion, Ark.; Tunica, Miss.; Olive Branch, Miss.; Woodstock Training School, and the county schools of Arlington, Germantown and Eads.

President W. J. Hale of the Tennessee State Normal School, will send a large exhibit from Nashville, and will also send three of his teachers to make demonstrations each day of the fair. His domestic art teacher will reach here Monday morning and will immediately begin training 50 local persons to put on a fashion show each afternoon of the fair.

Julia Hooks, one of the best known colored musicians in the south, will have a chorus of voices singing each evening.

The secretary has also arranged to have health lecturers each afternoon in the woman's building.

There will be a complete midway, with various attractive rides as well as shows and other kinds of amusements. They also have a string of harness horses already on the grounds and will have races each day of the fair.

of the large number of out of town visitors. The 1923 catalogue has already been issued. It provides for a larger number of prizes, and premiums in actual cash than ever before, hence already the interest has begun to arise, and the exhibitors are asking for increased space. There are to be a number of new features this year for the amusement of those who come in from other sections. Mr. Chas. Wynne, ring superintendent, reports things in better shape and the outlook very promising.

The following are the officers and Board of Directors and the floral hall managers for this year;

Fate Lawrence, President; Jim McGregor, Vice President; John B. Scruggs, Secretary; Billie Barbee, Treasurer; Prof. N. C. Woods, Asst. Secretary; Prof. J. R. McDaniel, Director of Agriculture; Chas. Wynne, Ring Superintendent; Dick Crain, Gate Manager; Jim McGregor, Gate Manager; Elias Taylor, Stall Manager; Walter Clark, Stall Manager; Sampson Garrett of Cave City, Ky., Judge.

Board of Directors—Fate Lawrence, John B. Scruggs, Jim McGregor, J. R. McDaniel, Chas. Wynne.

Floral Hall Managers—Mrs. Mary McDaniel, Manager; Mrs. Alberta P. Barbee, Asst. Secretary; Prof. J. R. McDaniel, Director of Agriculture; Mrs. Roxie Taylor, Treasurer; Mrs. Carrie E. Clark, Mrs. Chas. Wynne, Mrs. Lou J. Gordon, Mrs. J. R. Crain, Mrs. Lizzie Lawrence, Mrs. Nannie McGregor, Mrs. Emma J. Woods.

WILSON COUNTY COLORED FAIR

The Nashville Globe

People of Lebanon Making Great Preparation this Year

Lebanon, Tenn. (Special to the Nashville Globe)—Thursday, September 20th will be a memorable day in this the county seat of Wilson County. It will mark the opening of the fourth annual colored fair, under the auspices of the Wilson County Colored Fair Association. The occasion will run for three full days and three nights. 8/10/23

The President, Mr. Fate Lawrence and the secretary, Mr. John Scruggs have made the announcement, that on account of the increased interest of the coming Exposition, ample preparations have been made to take care

Fairs—1923. Texas.

BEAUMONT HAS A BUSINESS LEAGUE.

Beaumont Negro Citizens will enjoy a special day at the South, Texas Fair thanks to the efficient direction of the Business and Laboring Men's League. They have had a special building constructed for exhibits of Negro schools, farms, etc., and they expect a record breaking attendance at their special program for that day.

In addition to sponsoring this special day at the fair, this league has employed and pays regularly a nurse for the city and it partly pays the salary of a County Demonstration Agent. Dallas

Here is an example of a League which is doing real and constructive work. Such work as is probably to be equalled nowhere else in the state outside of Houston where the Colored Commercial club is operating a rest-room and actively seeking means of improving Negro business ventures. Dallas Tex.

The contemplation of these two organizations and the work which they are accomplishing should give encouragement to that few men in Dallas who are bending their every effort that the Negro Business Men's League might become a factor for good in the life of our city. Their beginning has been good but they do not as yet have the cooperation of the number sufficient to make it as virile and as powerful as the life of our community warrants. It lacks something. And The Express believes that that something is a definite program. 11-10-23

Dallas Negro business men need to become so impressed with their own needs and so encouraged by a vision of their possibilities that, like the men of Beaumont and the club of Houston they will determine upon a course of procedure which will bring them greater results and attract to them those of their kind who now do not see the crying need of an efficient organization.

This success of the Beaumont League should be encouraging to struggling business Leagues everywhere and especially to us who are situated in a metropolis which offers greater opportunity for efficient contribution to the economic life of our group than any other civic center of the state.

It is high time that we begin to do better.

Fairs — 1923

Virginia.

City Bids For The National Fair Meet

Norfolk Journal

Secretary Palmer Invites Organization To Hold First Annual Convention Here.

Suicide

Norfolk Va

An invitation has been sent to the National Association of Colored Fairs by secretary Palmer, of the Norfolk Colored Fair Association, to be its guest at the first annual meeting of the organization.

Among the matters of vital interest to colored fairs all over the country to be discussed at the meeting are the matter of conflicting dates; early selection of dates; contract specifications; special considerations for the Negro concessionaire; the use of Negro free acts; the advance of community interest; the saving of money by joint arrangement of attractions and the creation of more publicity.

The National Association of Colored Fairs was organized at the meeting of the National Negro Business League in Norfolk last August and it was largely through the efforts of the Norfolk organization that the preliminary work was so readily accomplished. The organization has been endorsed by the National Negro Business League and the National Farmers' Association.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION COLORED FAIRS MEETS

St Louis Argus

Associated Negro Press.

NORFOLK, Va., March 1.—The first annual meeting of the National Association of Colored Fairs was held at Norfolk, Va., February 22, with 35 members attending, representing 12 Fair Associations. Representatives were present from the following cities, Poconoke City, Md., Fairfax, Va., Suffolk, Va., Hampton, Va., Portsmouth, Va Norfolk, Va., Raleigh, N. C., Winston-Salem, N. C. Winston, N. C., Rocky Mount, N. C., Smithfield, N. C., and Winchester, Va. 3-16-23

The meeting was opened by Dr. A. L. Paey, first vice presidene; Norfolk, Va., in the absence of Dr. J. H. Love, President, Raleigh, N. C., who was detained on account of missing connection with his train at Philadelphia.

As the meeting progressed keen interest was manifested by all present in the various questions brought up pertaining to the successful operation and mainagement of fairs. It was unanimously agreed that a closer co-operation on the part of all Colored Fairs is essential at this time and that headquarters should be maintained for the essembling and disseminating of materials that pertain to exhibits, carnivals, concessions, free amusements attractions and contracts. It was also decided that a working agreement should be entered into with the owners of race horses, for their own protection as well as that of the colored fairs, also that steps should be taken looking forward to obtaining exhibits from the State and Federal governments, with the idea of increasing the educational and industrial features, which it was agreed to be the most essential for our people as well as practical means of demonstrating these exhibits. Particular stress was laid on getting the means of demonstrating these exhibits. Particular stress was laid on getting the exhibitors of nationally advertised merchandise to place exhibits at colored fairs.

The newspapers were praised for their co-operation in the resolutions, and managers urged to use them extensively for publicity.

Before the time arrived for the close of the meeting it was agreed because of the many interesting subjects and questions discussed, the next annaul meeting would take up more than one day. The first annual meeting was one of the most successful attempts in launching an organization of a national character that has ever been started by our people." declared Secretary R. H. Cross.

2ND ANNUAL COLORED FAIR SEPTEMBER 12-15

Promises To Be Bigger And Better in Every Way This Year; Big Amusements Booked.

It has been officially announced that the second annual Colored Agricultural and Industrial Fair will be held at the Greater Norfolk Fair Grounds September 12 to 15. This news will be hailed with delight by the thousands of patrons who attended the fair last year, as well as by those who failed to attend, because they did not realize the vast and interesting features comprising this new enterprise for our people.

Norfolk Va.

The Fair this year will be bigger and better in every way and the management plans to put on some very large and interesting exhibits in all departments and book some of the biggest outdoor amusement attractions that can be obtained among the colored professional performers. The speed contests, enjoyed so much by all who attended last year, will be maintained on the program arranged for this year with an additional string of fast horses from Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Kentucky.

The officers of Norfolk's Colored Fair Association are as follows: Dr. A. L. Paey, president; W. J. Kemp, vice-president; Dr. J. Q. A. Webb, vice-president and C. A. Palmer, secretary-treasurer; R. H. Cross, manager.

SUFFOLK FAIR HAS A BANNER YEAR

Norfolk Journal

Suicide

Fourteenth Anuual Event Measures Up to All Expectations; Best in History.

Suffolk, Va.—The Tidewater Fair Association closed its Fourteenth Annual exhibit Friday, October 19, having broken all previous record for attendance.

The exhibits, performances, addresses and high class amusements were had for four days and nights. The shows, races, exhibits and band concerts provided the daily attractions, while at night the addresses, beautiful fire works made this a banner year. 10-27-23

The races were exceptionaly good class. The school display, tho not large, was good. Farm products were of an excellent character and well arranged, Mr. T. L. J. Walden, of Holland, Va., winning the first prize. Messrs. Charles Douck, Artis Holland and Luther Faulk had splendid exhibits.

The Boys' Corn Club under the supervision of Mr. Charity, representing thirty-one Virginia counties was the best of the fair. The exhibits from Belleville Industrial School were worthy of mention.

Among the speakers were attorney William M. Reid, Bishop Plummer, of Belleville; J. Finley Wilson, of Washington, D. C.